



Touch the Music. Hear the Art.
www.clefworks.org

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
October 22, 2009
Contact: Carrie Banks
334-546-8908

ClefWorks Provides Area Students the Opportunity to *Touch the Music; Hear the Art*

MONTGOMERY, AL – ClefWorks shared the magic of live classical music with more than 450 area elementary school children this past September when four ClefWorks musicians performed for students at Carver, Wilson and Seth Johnson Elementary schools as well as Common Ground Montgomery, a community program for under-resourced neighborhoods.

MSO Cello Fellow **Dan Totan**, classical guitar instructor **Kevin Manderville**, Huntingdon College's **Vadim Serebryany** (piano) and University of Alabama doctoral student **Gosia Leska** (violin) awed young audiences during four performances throughout the week of September 28 where the students – some exposed to classical music for the first time – listened to compositions by Bach and Mozart as well as learned the ABCs of concert etiquette. ClefWorks Executive Director **Leah Stephens** and Dr. Manderville talked to the students about turning off cell phones and other electronic devices during a performance and stressed the importance of entering or leaving a concert only between pieces. The children also learned that applause is held until the end of a piece and not given after each movement.

Children at Common Ground received hands-on instruction from Miss Leska and Mr. Totan on how to properly hold and play the violin and cello. The outreach performances were made possible through a Support the Arts License Tag Committee grant and were also attended by Clefworks Board President **Betty Bobbitt Byrne** as well as Board Vice President **Glenda Allred**.

ClefWorks' 2010 season, *Do You Know JACK?*, is scheduled for the week of January 25 in Montgomery and will feature the internationally-renowned JACK Quartet of New York City. Working closely with some of today's most exciting composers, JACK is known for innovative programming and is equally comfortable with freshly minted music and long-standing classical favorites. JACK violist, John Pickford Richards, is a returning ClefWorks musician, having performed in Montgomery for the previous two seasons. In addition, ClefWorks recently completed a Call for Scores for its third annual Composition Competition. The winning composer, selected by JACK Quartet from more than 150 entries, will be announced on the ClefWorks website at www.clefworks.org on November 5, 2009 with the winning composition performed by JACK during the January 2010 festival.

For more information on the 2010 *Do You Know Jack?* season, or to sign up for ClefWorks' e-newsletter, *ClefNotes*, visit www.clefworks.org.

###